REMARKS

Claims 1 and 9 remain in the application and have been amended hereby.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 1 and 9 under 35 USC 102(b), as being anticipated by Sombroek et al.

A feature of the present invention is to continue the speed of increase when the first or the second command means is deactivated while the first or the second command means is activated and a similarity of alternate actions is found (e.g. alternating between channel up and channel down), and to return the initial speed when the similarity is not found (e.g. alternating between channel up and volume up).

Looking at Sombroek et al., as pointed to in the Office Action at paragraph 5, we see that regardless of the direction of activation (e.g. channel up, channel down, volume up, volume down) the cursor is moved at a first speed (V_1 in Fig. 2) and after a time period elapses (t_1 in Fig. 2) the cursor is moved at a second speed (V_2 in Fig. 2).

It is not clear in Sombroek et al. what occurs when the direction of activation changes, one possibility is that the speed is kept accelerated (V_2), another possibility is that the speed is returned to the initial value (V_1). What is

clear in Sombroek et al. is that continuing the speed of increase or returning to the initial speed will occur regardless of the direction of alternate activation and deactivation of the command means. That is, Sombroek et al. lacks any "means for judging similarity of alternate actions made by said first and second command means".

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that amended claims 1 and 9 are not anticipated by Sombroek et al.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1 and 9 by rewriting same to read as follows.

--1. (Six Times Amended) A control apparatus having a first command means to control at an initial speed a first parameter and a second command means to control at an initial speed a second parameter, said control apparatus comprising:

means for increasing at [said] a predetermined speed one of said first and second parameters when one of said first and second command means is activated continuously;

means for judging similarity of alternate actions made by said first and second command means; and

means for continuing said predetermined speed of increase when one of said first and second command means is deactivated while one of said first and second command means is activated and said similarity is found by said means for judging similarity and for returning to said initial speed when said similarity is not found.

--9. (Six Times Amended) A control method using a first command means to control at an initial speed a first

parameter and a second command means to control at an initial speed a second parameter, said control method comprising the steps of:

increasing at [said] a predetermined speed one of said first and second parameters when one of said first and second command means is activated continuously;

judging similarity of alternate actions made by said first and second command means; and

continuing said predetermined speed of increase when one of said first and second command means is deactivated while one of said first and second command means is activated and said similarity is found by said step of judging similarity and for returning to said initial speed when said similarity is not found.--